

1
2
3
4
5
6
7
8
9
10
11
12
13
14
15
16
17
18
19
20
21
22
23
24
25

A MEMORIAL

REQUESTING NEW MEXICO HIGHLANDS UNIVERSITY TO CONDUCT A STUDY
OF GROUPS THAT FOSTER INTOLERANCE IN NEW MEXICO.

WHEREAS, the constitution of the state of New Mexico
begins with the words: "We, the people of New Mexico,
grateful to Almighty God for the blessings of liberty, in
order to secure the advantages of a state government, do
ordain and establish this constitution"; and

WHEREAS, Article 2, Section 4 of the constitution of New
Mexico guarantees that certain rights are inherent and that
"all persons are born equally free, and have certain natural,
inherent and inalienable rights, among which are the rights
of enjoying and defending life and liberty, of acquiring,
possessing and protecting property, and of seeking and
obtaining safety and happiness"; and

WHEREAS, the constitution of New Mexico also guarantees
that every New Mexican will enjoy the right of religious
freedom and that "no person shall ever be molested or denied
any civil or political right or privilege on account of his
religious opinion or mode of religious worship"; and

WHEREAS, as inheritors of the guarantees of liberty
handed down from the founders of the nation and underscored
by the founders of this state, it is the duty of all New
Mexicans to be vigilant against the growing threat to those

1 fundamental guarantees; and

2 WHEREAS, operating in New Mexico today are certain
3 groups that advocate racism, ethnic and religious bigotry,
4 including anti-Semitism, and other forms of bigotry that
5 militate against the common prayer that our state manifest
6 "perfect friendship among united cultures"; and

7 WHEREAS, it is in the public interest that such groups
8 be identified and studied in an effort to enhance public
9 safety and reduce the likelihood of terrorism and danger to
10 all New Mexicans;

11 NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE SENATE OF THE
12 STATE OF NEW MEXICO that New Mexico highlands university be
13 requested to conduct a study to determine if, and to what
14 extent, there exist in New Mexico groups, such as white
15 supremacist and similar hate groups, that advocate racism,
16 ethnic and religious bigotry, including anti-Semitism, or
17 other forms of bigotry and to identify the rhetoric,
18 organizational names and locations of those groups, if
19 applicable; and

20 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that New Mexico highlands
21 university report the findings of its study to the
22 appropriate interim committee of the legislature; and

23 BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that a copy of this memorial be
24 transmitted to the president of New Mexico highlands
25 university.
